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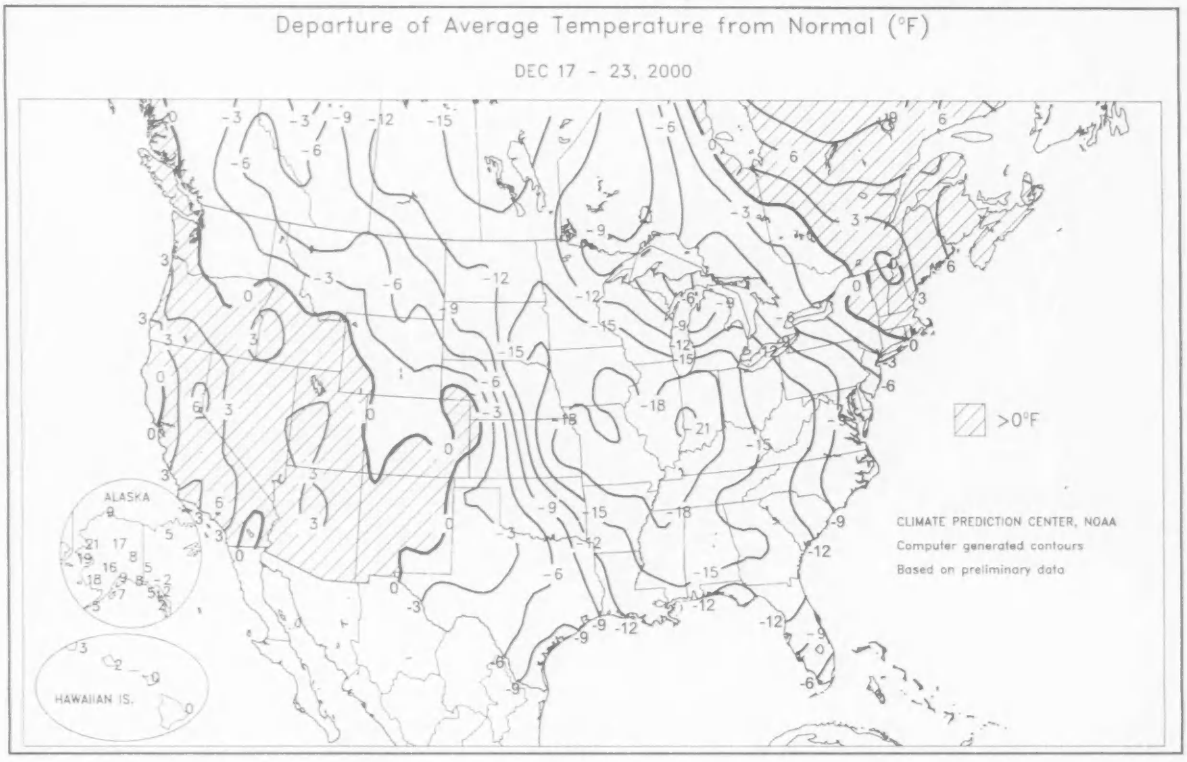
WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
National Agricultural Statistics Service
and World Agricultural Outlook Board



HIGHLIGHTS

December 17 - 23, 2000

Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

Extremely cold weather persisted across the **eastern half of the Nation**, holding weekly temperatures 12 to 22°F below normal in the **Corn Belt** and as much as 13°F below normal in **northern Florida**. On December 20, a freeze struck **Florida's northern citrus areas**, where minimum temperatures ranged from 24 to 28°F. Citrus fruit damage is expected to be minimal due to the short duration of temperatures below the critical 28°F threshold, but the full extent of damage will not be known for several weeks. In contrast, mild weather (temperatures 1 to 7°F above normal) prevailed in **California** and the **Southwest**. Despite occasional showers, a drier-than-normal wet

(Continued on page 5)

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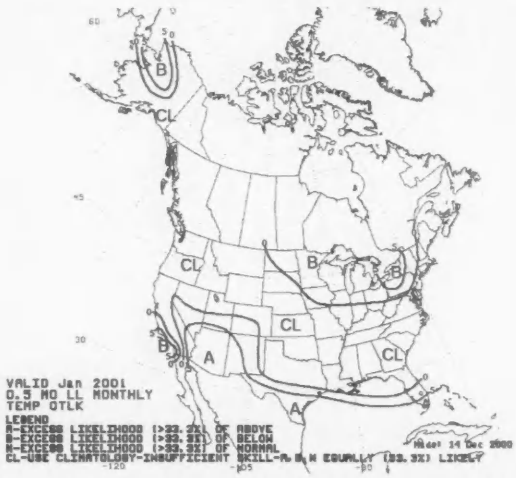
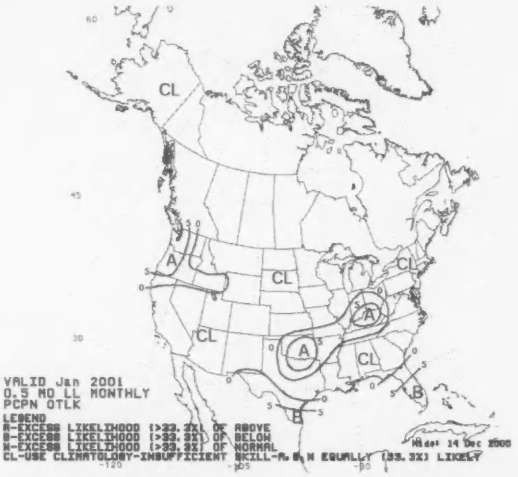
Monthly Temperature & Precipitation Outlook



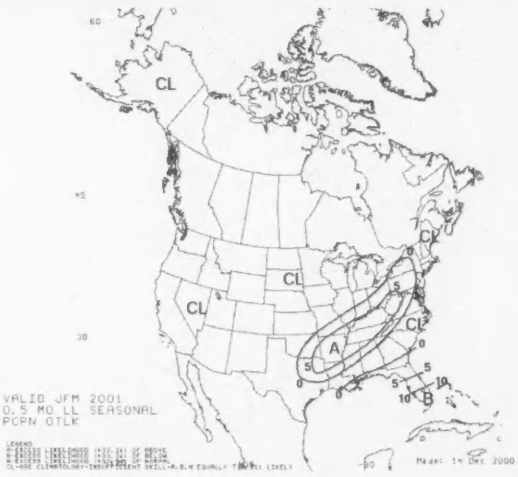
Monthly Temperature Outlook for January of 2001 was issued by the Climate Prediction Center (NOAA/NWS). Climatology (CL) is forecast across much of the United States, with an increased likelihood of above-normal temperatures (A) across the far South and Southwest. Below-normal temperatures (B) should persist in the northern Plains, Great Lakes, northern Mid-Atlantic, and interior New England.



Monthly Precipitation Outlook for January of 2001 was issued by the Climate Prediction Center (NOAA/NWS). Climatology (CL) is forecast for much of the United States. Across the southern Plains and Ohio River Valley, there is an increased likelihood of above-normal precipitation (A), The Pacific Northwest is also expected to become wetter than normal, while below-normal precipitation (B) is expected in Florida and southern Texas.

Seasonal Temperature & Precipitation Outlook

Seasonal Temperature Outlook for January - March 2001 was issued by the Climate Prediction Center (NOAA/NWS). Climatology (CL) is forecast across much of the Central United States, with an increased likelihood of above-normal temperatures (A) across the South. Conversely, below-normal temperatures (B) are expected in the Great Lakes, northern Plains, and Pacific Northwest.



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook for January - March 2001 was issued by the Climate Prediction Center (NOAA/NWS). Above-normal precipitation (A) is expected from the Delta northeast across the Tennessee Valley and into the Mid-Atlantic States. Florida is forecast to remain drier than normal (B) through the period, while climatology (CL) is forecast across the remainder of the United States

Weather Data for Selected Locations in the Delta and the Bootheel

Weather Data for the Week Ending December 23, 2000

Data provided by the Mississippi State Delta Research and Extension Center (DREC), the Southern Regional Climate Center (SRCC), and the University of Missouri.

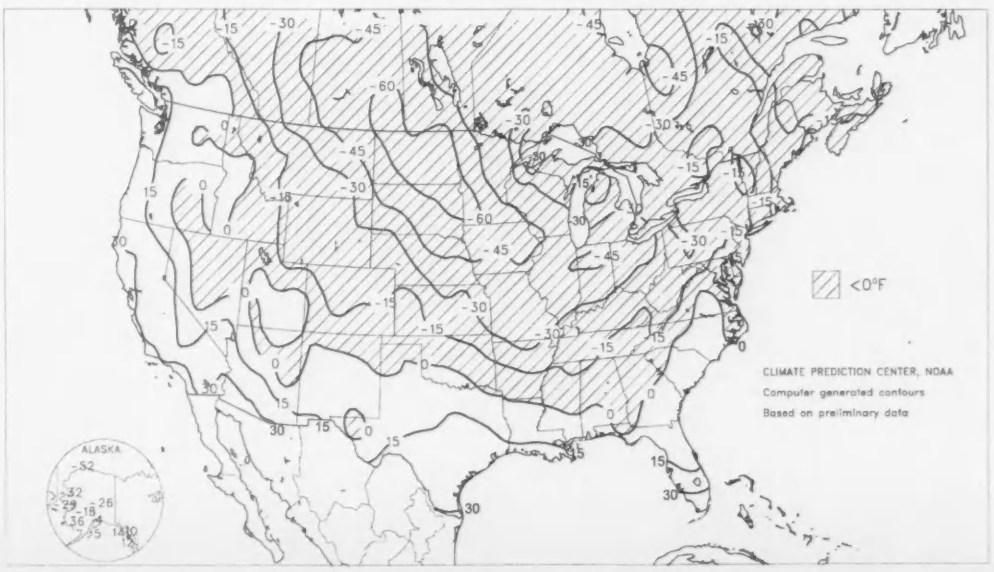
STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							4-INCH SOIL TEMP, °F		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN. SINCE Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 1	TOTAL IN., SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	32 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
MS	BATESVILLE [X]	36	19	63	14	28	-14	0.00	-1.39	0.00	3.14	73	--	--	--	--	0	7	0	0
	BELZONI [X]	38	22	65	14	30	-16	0.84	-0.43	0.44	3.77	86	43.79	--	--	--	0	7	3	0
	CLARKSDALE [X]	38	20	58	15	29	-14	0.07	-1.08	0.04	3.05	79	45.92	--	--	--	0	7	2	0
	CLEVELAND [X]	39	19	66	18	29	-14	0.62	-0.50	0.34	4.12	114	47.97	102	--	--	0	7	3	0
	GREENVILLE [X]	40	20	69	19	30	-16	0.15	-1.00	0.09	3.36	87	--	--	--	--	0	7	2	0
	GREENWOOD [X]	38	18	59	15	28	-18	0.06	-1.17	0.04	2.94	76	40.94	85	--	--	0	7	2	0
	INDIANOLA 1S	35	23	53	20	29	--	0.08	--	0.04	3.66	--	--	--	38	36	0	7	4	0
	INVERNESS 5E	36	22	55	19	29	--	0.04	--	0.04	3.62	--	46.11	--	--	--	0	7	1	0
	LYON	33	20	48	16	27	--	0.04	--	0.02	1.82	--	35.62	--	--	--	0	7	3	0
	MOORHEAD [X]	36	22	52	19	29	-17	0.00	-1.33	0.00	3.41	78	49.49	97	--	--	0	7	0	0
	ONWARD	37	23	54	19	30	--	0.28	--	0.16	1.59	--	--	--	41	38	0	7	3	0
	ROLLING FORK [X]	43	21	73	18	32	-13	0.34	-0.85	0.21	2.89	72	34.99	70	--	--	0	7	2	0
	SIDON	37	22	62	18	30	--	0.05	--	0.03	2.41	--	36.85	--	--	--	0	7	2	0
	TUNICA [X]	35	17	57	14	26	-16	0.06	-1.22	0.06	2.37	56	43.07	87	--	--	0	7	1	0
	TUNICA 1W	32	19	56	14	25	--	0.03	--	0.03	2.42	--	--	--	37	36	0	7	1	0
	VANCE	34	18	54	16	26	--	0.17	--	0.09	3.65	--	--	--	44	41	0	7	2	0
	VICKSBURG [X]	45	22	73	17	34	-15	0.34	-0.88	0.21	2.30	56	44.62	--	--	--	0	7	3	0
	YAZOO CITY [X]	42	21	72	15	32	-16	0.69	-0.41	0.50	2.37	52	45.87	86	--	--	0	7	3	1
	STONEVILLE *	42	20	69	19	31	-14	0.18	-1.03	0.09	3.40	80	55.28	109	42	36	0	7	3	0
MO	CARDWELL	29	15	35	9	22	-16	0.00	-1.03	0.00	0.55	15	36.72	72	--	--	0	7	0	0
	CHARLESTON	26	10	32	7	18	-16	0.00	-0.71	0.00	1.00	30	42.04	87	--	--	0	7	0	0
	CLARKTON	28	12	35	8	20	-18	0.00	-0.95	0.00	2.24	74	--	--	--	--	0	7	0	0
	DELTA	25	7	32	3	17	-18	0.00	-1.00	0.00	2.47	72	38.10	75	--	--	0	7	0	0
	GLENNONVILLE	28	13	34	8	20	-18	0.00	-0.95	0.00	1.71	56	39.21	87	--	--	0	7	0	0
	PORTAGEVILLE #1	28	13	33	9	21	-15	0.00	-1.00	0.00	2.42	66	--	--	--	--	0	7	0	0
	PORTAGEVILLE #2	28	14	34	9	21	-15	0.00	-1.00	0.00	0.66	18	43.38	87	--	--	0	7	0	0
	STEELE	29	15	34	10	22	-15	0.01	-1.04	0.01	3.11	78	34.81	67	--	--	0	7	1	0

Compiled by USDA/OCE/WAOB's Stoneville Field Office. * Based on 1964-93 normals. [X] Based on 1961-90 normals.

Delta and Bootheel Weather and Crop Summary: Temperatures were much below normal throughout the region. Precipitation was also below normal. The cold weather and wet field conditions hampered fieldwork and growth of fall-sown grains. The first 3 weeks of December were among the region's coldest on record.

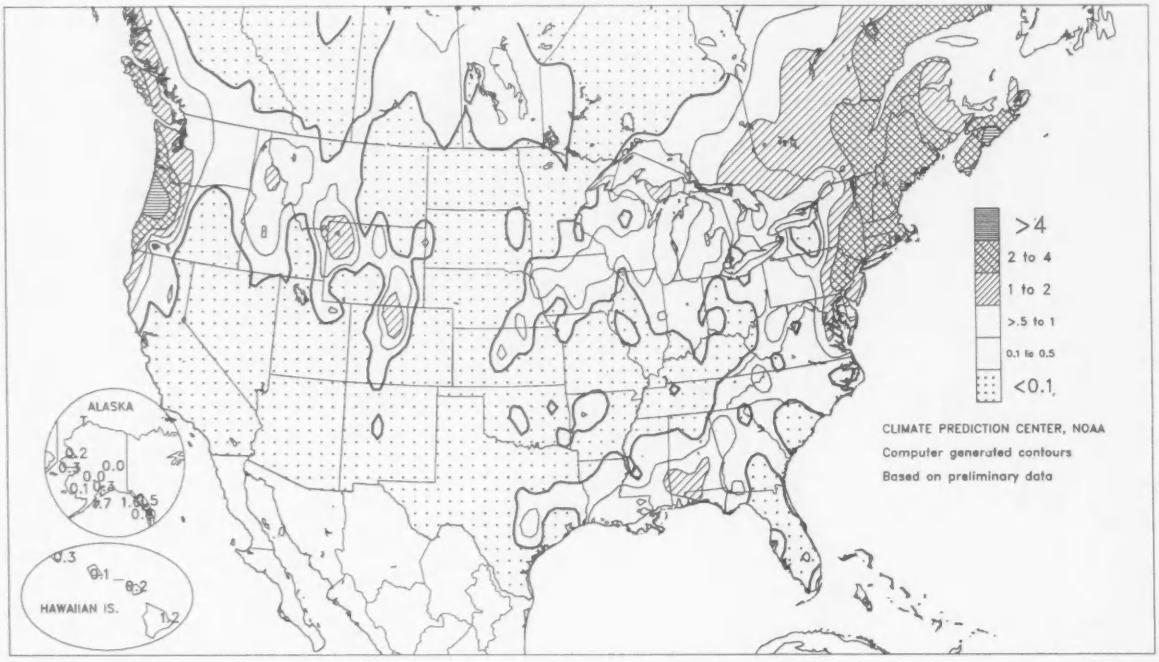
Extreme Wind Chill Temperature

DEC 17 - 23, 2000



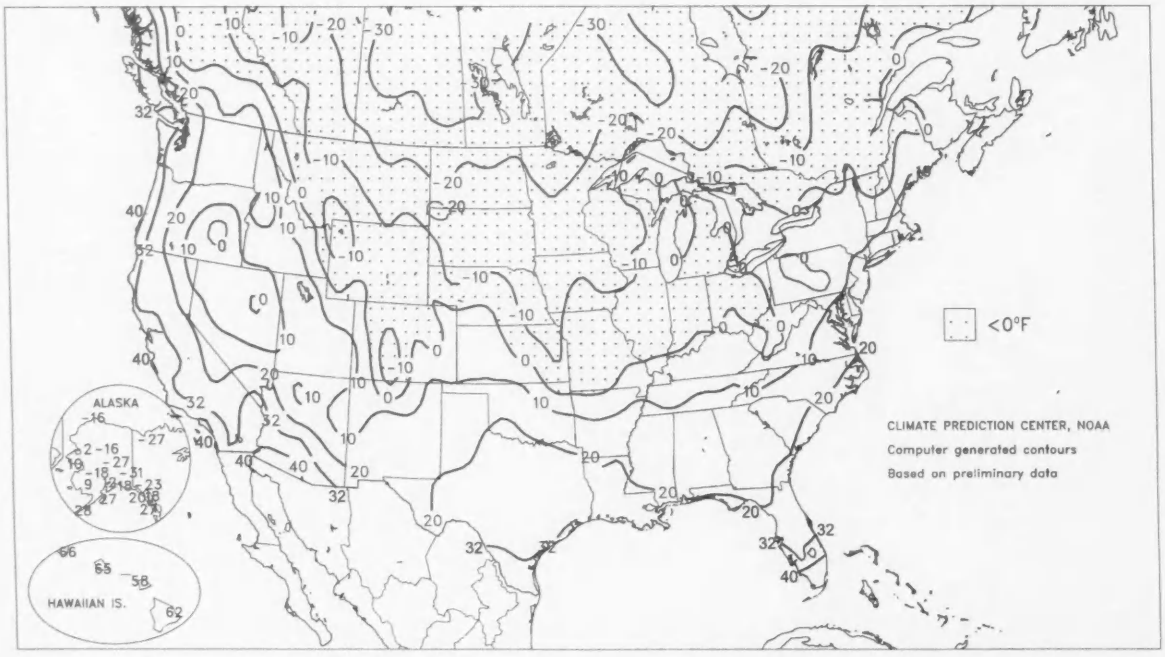
Total Precipitation (Inches)

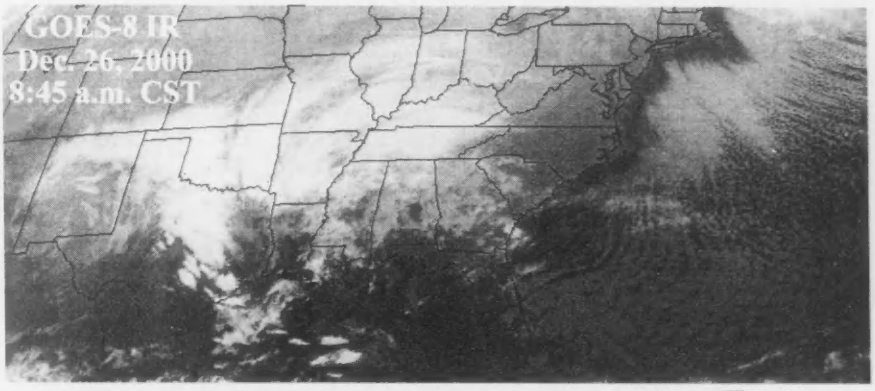
DEC 17 - 23, 2000



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

DEC 17 - 23, 2000





Developing Southern Storm: For the second time in 2 weeks, a major winter storm takes form across the Deep South. Meanwhile near the northern and middle Atlantic Coast, cold air flowing across the relatively warm ocean water generates cloud streamers roughly parallel to the air flow.

(Continued from front cover)

season continued in key watershed areas of **California** and the **Pacific Northwest**, leaving season-to-date precipitation generally 40 to 70 percent of normal in the **Cascades** and **Sierra Nevada**. Farther east, cold weather and snow showers maintained an extensive snow pack in the **Midwest**. Snow depths ranged from 1 to 2 feet in **northern and western Corn Belt**, stressing livestock and disrupting rural travel. Wind chill temperatures below -40°F were reported as far south as **Missouri**, and chill readings between -70 and -50°F were noted in the **Dakotas**. Meanwhile, light precipitation preceded the arrival of very cold air across the **South**. In **southern Florida**, however, light showers provided little relief from long-term drought. At week's end, precipitation developed in the **western Gulf Coast region**, signaling the approach of a major winter storm–the **Deep South's** second such system in 2 weeks.

Early in the week, an intensifying storm system dumped heavy rain (2 inches or more) across the **Northeast**. On December 17, daily-record precipitation totals included 2.79 inches in **Albany, NY** and 1.26 inches in **Burlington, VT**. Storm-total rainfall topped 4 inches in a few locations, with some of the highest totals in **New York's Catskill Mountains** at **East Jewett** (4.49 inches) and on **Slide Mountain** (5.40 inches). Prior to the storm's departure, high temperatures soared to daily-record levels on Sunday in **Bangor, ME** (60°F) and **Burlington** (56°F). High winds accompanied and trailed the system, reaching 78 mph in **Milton (Blue Hill Observatory), MA** and 67 mph in **Presque Isle, ME**.

Meanwhile, very warm weather prevailed across **southern California**, where Sunday's daily-record highs included 88°F in **Pismo Beach** and 87°F in **Simi Valley**. **Paso Robles, CA** noted three consecutive record highs (73, 73, and 74°F) from December 18-20. After midweek, warmth spread into the **Great Basin** and **Southwest**. **Reno, NV** (63°F) posted a daily-record high of Thursday, followed the next day by a record high of 67°F in **Winslow, AZ**.

On Monday, the latest in a series of storm systems brought widespread snowfall to the **Midwest**. Daily-record snowfalls were established on December 18 in locations such as **Milwaukee, WI** (8.1 inches) and **Rochester, MN** (7.2 inches). By December 25, month-to-date snowfall reached 33.0 inches in **Flint, MI**, their greatest total for any month (previously 28.5 inches in January 1976). December snowfall records were broken in several cities, including **Milwaukee, WI** (38.6 inches) and **Springfield, MO** (16.9 inches). Milwaukee's record, 30.7 inches, had been set in 1951; Springfield's standard, 16.7 inches, had stood since 1916. December snowfall records were also established in **Moline, IL** (23.2 inches), **Green Bay, WI** (28.0 inches), **Lansing, MI** (30.1 inches), and **Grand Rapids, MI** (54.1 inches). Season-to-date snowfall reached 77.2 inches in **Grand Rapids**, surpassing their total for the 1999-2000 season (54.5 inches) and normal annual amount (72.1 inches). In addition, **Grand Rapids** reported snowfall of a trace or more on 22 consecutive days from December 4-25. On **Michigan's Upper Peninsula**, **Marquette's** December 1-25 snowfall reached 77.0 inches, boosting their season-to-date total to 127.1 inches.

Farther south, the December 20 **Florida** freeze resulted in daily-record lows in locations such as **Daytona Beach** (25°F), **Lakeland** (28°F), and **Orlando** (28°F). In most areas across **Peninsular Florida**, however, the freeze was close in magnitude to, but slightly less severe than, a similarly timed freeze in 1981. As cold air continued to pour southeastward, **Springfield, MO** registered a low of -10°F on December 22, their first sub-zero reading since January 12, 1997. In addition, **Springfield's** minimum represented their fourth-lowest December reading during the 113-year period of record. In **Kansas**, **Wichita's** temperatures fell below 10°F on 8 days from December 1-23, their greatest total in December since 10 such days in 1990.

Conditions remained warm and unusually dry in **Hawaii**, where weekly temperatures averaged up to 3°F above normal on the western islands. Meanwhile, **Alaska's** mild December weather continued, especially across interior and western areas. Weekly temperatures averaged more than 20°F above normal along parts of the **Bering Sea Coast**, peaking above the freezing mark as far north as **Kotzebue** (north of the **Arctic Circle**). In **southeastern Alaska**, **Juneau's** season-to-date snowfall stood at 5.3 inches, their lowest on record through December 25.

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending December 23, 2000

Data Provided by Climate Prediction Center (301-763-8000, Ext. 7503)

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL	BIRMINGHAM	39	18	47	12	28	-16	0.15	-1.03	0.07	1.30	34	49.51	93	85	40	0	7	3	0
	HUNTSVILLE	36	16	42	13	26	-16	0.17	-1.17	0.05	3.56	81	42.85	77	86	59	0	7	5	0
	MOBILE	50	26	61	19	38	-14	0.72	-0.49	0.41	2.32	59	44.25	71	80	45	0	7	2	0
	MONTGOMERY	41	20	49	15	31	-17	0.89	-0.30	0.57	2.19	57	35.13	67	84	41	0	7	3	1
AK	ANCHORAGE	31	18	42	12	24	8	0.33	0.08	0.17	0.57	70	14.40	92	86	79	0	7	3	0
	BARROW	0	-8	10	-16	-4	8	0.01	-0.02	0.01	0.02	22	5.24	119	87	80	0	7	1	0
	FAIRBANKS	9	-8	20	-27	1	9	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.04	6	10.14	95	81	75	0	7	0	0
	JUNEAU	34	24	39	18	29	2	0.50	-0.50	0.41	3.59	110	68.31	129	92	81	0	6	3	0
	KODIAK	41	34	43	27	38	8	1.72	0.14	0.77	6.28	126	59.51	91	92	79	0	3	5	1
	NOME	30	20	38	10	25	19	0.29	0.10	0.21	1.18	187	19.94	136	79	70	0	7	3	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	52	19	57	9	36	7	0.00	-0.55	0.00	0.21	12	15.84	71	63	15	0	7	0	0
	PHOENIX	69	41	73	40	55	2	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.00	0	7.87	107	46	23	0	0	0	0
	TUCSON	69	37	75	33	53	2	0.00	-0.25	0.00	0.00	0	12.44	106	48	21	0	0	0	0
	YUMA	70	47	73	44	58	2	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.00	0	1.93	63	37	34	0	0	0	0
AR	FORT SMITH	35	17	42	11	26	-13	0.00	-0.63	0.00	1.06	45	36.65	91	71	42	0	7	0	0
	LITTLE ROCK	35	17	47	12	26	-16	0.00	-1.05	0.00	2.00	54	42.05	85	73	42	0	7	0	0
CA	BAKERSFIELD	62	35	73	28	48	1	0.01	-0.13	0.01	0.03	7	4.99	90	83	71	0	3	1	0
	FRESNO	59	36	65	34	48	4	0.02	-0.31	0.01	0.12	12	15.29	150	94	79	0	0	2	0
	LOS ANGELES	68	50	79	45	59	3	0.06	-0.32	0.04	0.10	8	10.97	95	62	43	0	0	2	0
	REDDING	57	37	67	32	47	3	0.24	-1.01	0.10	1.98	49	36.86	116	84	66	0	1	2	0
	SACRAMENTO	58	36	60	31	47	3	0.00	-0.57	0.00	0.77	43	24.99	149	10	52	0	1	0	0
	SAN DIEGO	68	47	77	45	58	1	0.00	-0.36	0.00	0.13	11	7.04	74	69	45	0	0	0	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	60	44	65	41	52	3	0.01	-0.71	0.01	0.46	21	23.00	122	86	70	0	0	1	0
	STOCKTON	58	33	61	30	46	2	0.01	-0.47	0.01	0.51	33	14.94	112	10	89	0	2	1	0
CO	ALAMOSA	39	-2	50	-9	19	3	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.08	22	4.94	66	75	36	0	7	0	0
	CO SPRINGS	44	14	58	4	29	0	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.49	136	17.12	106	68	20	0	7	0	0
	DENVER	46	13	58	0	30	0	0.05	-0.09	0.05	0.16	33	15.20	100	81	24	0	7	1	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	38	15	46	11	27	0	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.15	33	7.48	88	73	50	0	7	0	0
	PUEBLO	51	9	65	3	30	0	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.04	12	12.24	110	66	28	0	7	0	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	38	23	61	14	30	-3	1.02	0.25	0.95	2.21	84	45.36	111	77	53	0	6	4	1
	HARTFORD	37	20	63	10	28	0	2.10	1.23	1.86	2.94	100	43.01	100	80	58	0	6	3	1
DC	WASHINGTON	37	21	60	14	29	-9	0.46	-0.24	0.33	1.51	65	39.51	104	86	48	0	7	2	0
DE	WILMINGTON	36	19	62	11	28	-6	0.37	-0.41	0.31	1.68	64	43.91	110	85	52	0	7	3	0
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	61	35	72	25	48	-11	0.08	-0.50	0.06	0.36	19	39.74	84	89	43	0	1	2	0
	JACKSONVILLE	55	27	72	21	41	-13	0.05	-0.59	0.03	0.14	7	37.55	74	85	38	0	6	2	0
	KEY WEST	71	61	81	54	66	-5	0.18	-0.26	0.14	1.79	119	34.75	89	87	70	0	0	2	0
	MIAMI	73	55	84	46	64	-4	0.05	-0.36	0.05	5.45	398	60.37	109	90	60	0	0	1	0
	ORLANDO	64	39	73	28	52	-9	0.10	-0.37	0.07	1.12	70	29.93	63	82	48	0	1	2	0
	PENSACOLA	52	28	66	20	40	-13	0.58	-0.42	0.25	1.78	57	41.16	67	73	40	0	6	3	0
	TALLAHASSEE	54	26	68	19	40	-12	0.21	-0.95	0.17	1.31	35	43.17	67	83	36	0	6	2	0
	TAMPA	64	39	72	32	51	-11	0.61	0.11	0.53	1.18	73	29.68	68	87	54	0	1	2	1
	WEST PALM	72	50	82	40	61	-6	0.01	-0.50	0.01	1.99	106	41.99	70	88	59	0	0	1	0
GA	ATHENS	41	19	57	15	30	-14	0.39	-0.55	0.21	3.40	114	35.33	73	85	53	0	7	2	0
	ATLANTA	39	19	51	13	29	-14	0.53	-0.46	0.25	2.30	72	35.25	71	81	53	0	7	4	0
	AUGUSTA	47	20	68	15	34	-12	0.07	-0.74	0.06	1.14	46	37.75	86	80	38	0	7	2	0
	COLUMBUS	44	23	54	17	33	-15	0.32	-0.84	0.24	2.62	71	36.07	73	85	34	0	7	3	0
	MACON	46	21	59	17	33	-15	0.26	-0.76	0.21	1.29	41	38.84	89	86	38	0	7	2	0
	SAVANNAH	50	26	69	19	38	-13	0.16	-0.54	0.15	1.20	56	36.02	74	86	46	0	7	2	0
HI	HILO	79	66	81	62	72	0	1.20	-1.39	0.71	3.42	37	141.1	112	92	82	0	0	7	1
	HONOLULU	83	69	84	65	76	2	0.14	-0.74	0.13	0.17	6	7.12	34	84	75	0	0	2	0
	KAHULUI	82	63	86	58	72	-1	0.18	-0.59	0.16	0.18	8	9.31	47	87	80	0	0	2	0
	LIHUE	80	70	81	66	75	2	0.25	-0.92	0.11	1.10	29	20.94	50	96	85	0	0	3	0
ID	BOISE	40	26	44	19	33	4	0.24	-0.06	0.13	0.68	68	11.92	101	85	68	0	6	4	0
	LEWISTON	39	29	46	24	34	0	0.31	0.03	0.17	0.52	57	12.80	105	87	74	0	5	3	0
	POCATELLO	34	16	40	6	25	2	0.03	-0.22	0.02	0.41	51	9.13	77	85	70	0	7	2	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	16	-3	20	-9	7	-18	0.23	-0.30	0.14	1.17	62	32.41	92	82	70	0	7	2	0
	MOLINE	13	-4	22	-10	4	-19	0.21	-0.28	0.12	1.11	65	36.74	95	82	71	0	7	2	0
	PEORIA	21	0	35	-6	10	-15	0.04	-0.49	0.03	0.93	50	26.24	74	83	65	0	7	2	0
	ROCKFORD	13	-7	19	-12	3	-19	0.03	-0.41	0.03	1.49	94	43.34	121	88	77	0	7	1	0
	SPRINGFIELD	18	1	25	-4	9	-19	0.03	-0.57	0.02	1.03	49	31.34	91	79	68	0	7	2	0
IN	EVANSVILLE	24	5	31	0	14	-20	0.02	-0.79	0.02	3.77	135	48.20	114	80	66	0	7	1	0
	FORT WAYNE	20	-1	32	-6	9	-18	0.67	0.03	0.31	3.44	156	37.93	111	89	70	0	7	3	0
	INDIANAPOLIS	19	1	25	-2	10	-19	0.36	-0.38	0.13	2.93	115	40.63	104	87	68	0	7	4	0
	SOUTH BEND	18	-3	27	-9	8	-19	0.27	-0.46	0.13	1.72	69	36.54	95	85	74	0	7	4	0
IA	BURLINGTON	14	-3	25	-7	6	-19	0.13	-0.30	0.05	1.16	76	32.48	91	84	61	0	7	2	0
	CEDAR RAPIDS	13	-6	27	-12	4	-17	0.07	-0.27	0.05	0.49	40	31.97	96	88	61	0	7	3	0
	DES MOINES	14	-2	22	-7	6	-16	1.92	1.64	1.63	2.48	248	23.70	72	78	67	0	7	4	1
	DUBUQUE	9	-7	15	-12	1	-19	0.07	-0.34	0.03	0.47	31	31.74	84	82	72	0	7	3	0
	SIOUX CITY	13	-3	31	-12	5	-15	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.81	137	23.93	93	80	72	0	7	0	0
	WATERLOO	8	-7	15	-12	1	-17	0.40	0.13	0.20	0.88	87	37.10	111	83	73	0	7	3	0
KS	CONCORDIA	23	3	34	-6	13	-15	0.13	-0.05	0.13	0.51	80	18.14	63	76	61	0	7	1	0
	DODGE CITY	41	13	49	9	27	-4	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.19	38	21.28	100	77	31	0	7	0	0
	GOODLAND	45	12	58	6	29	1	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.32	103	18.82	104	77	42	0	7	0	0
	TOPEKA	22	3	29	-8	13	-16	0.04	-0.26	0.04	1.14	105	28.14	81	71	57	0	7	1	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

*** Not Available

Weather Data for the Week Ending December 23, 2000

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
	WICHITA	28	10	32	4	19	-13	0.00	-0.26	0.00	0.96	104	32.42	112	73	56	0	7	0	0
KY	JACKSON	32	10	49	6	21	-16	0.13	-0.85	0.05	4.24	129	45.97	95	90	57	0	7	3	0
	LEXINGTON	28	7	38	1	17	-18	0.17	-0.73	0.03	3.84	128	42.24	97	84	65	0	7	2	0
	LOUISVILLE	26	8	33	5	17	-18	0.37	-0.44	0.08	4.22	153	49.42	114	86	60	0	7	4	0
	PADUCAH	26	8	33	4	17	-19	0.02	-1.02	0.02	2.85	80	48.68	101	80	55	0	7	1	0
LA	BATON ROUGE	51	26	63	20	38	-14	0.56	-0.71	0.39	2.39	58	37.76	63	86	38	0	6	2	0
	LAKE CHARLES	51	31	54	27	41	-11	0.44	-0.72	0.28	1.92	51	51.71	97	79	47	0	5	2	0
	NEW ORLEANS	53	33	66	28	43	-11	0.62	-0.70	0.35	2.40	56	38.59	64	72	47	0	2	2	0
	SHREVEPORT	47	27	55	23	37	-10	0.05	-0.86	0.04	2.34	76	52.66	117	72	32	0	7	2	0
ME	CARIBOU	28	9	54	-3	19	6	1.26	0.56	0.81	1.90	78	36.49	102	91	70	0	7	3	1
	PORTLAND	36	22	55	12	29	4	1.17	0.18	1.06	2.14	62	38.31	89	83	58	0	6	3	1
MD	BALTIMORE	36	18	62	12	27	-8	1.24	0.47	1.18	2.34	92	41.95	105	78	52	0	7	2	1
MA	BOSTON	39	26	64	17	33	1	2.90	2.01	2.48	4.32	144	45.41	112	85	56	0	6	4	1
	WORCESTER	33	19	60	10	26	0	1.89	0.99	1.69	3.02	99	43.67	93	90	50	0	7	4	1
MI	ALPENA	23	6	34	-8	14	-8	0.47	0.03	0.24	1.16	76	25.70	91	91	76	0	7	5	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	21	7	30	-2	14	-12	0.34	-0.27	0.03	1.25	57	42.21	119	90	77	0	7	6	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	22	4	33	-4	13	-8	0.42	-0.01	0.17	1.19	80	26.10	94	89	79	0	7	5	0
	LANSING	19	0	34	-9	10	-15	0.32	-0.19	0.20	1.18	66	32.27	107	92	85	0	7	4	0
	MUSKEGON	25	12	31	7	19	-8	0.18	-0.49	0.08	1.07	47	35.32	111	89	77	0	7	6	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	25	13	35	4	19	-5	0.50	0.03	0.17	1.23	77	31.01	106	92	72	0	7	7	0
MN	DULUTH	8	-3	11	-13	2	-9	0.01	-0.27	0.01	0.18	19	30.70	103	83	69	0	7	1	0
	INT'L FALLS	4	-10	13	-26	-3	-8	0.01	-0.18	0.01	0.25	40	22.92	95	81	70	0	7	1	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	7	-5	15	-13	1	-15	0.32	0.10	0.27	0.96	119	30.06	107	79	70	0	7	3	0
	ROCHESTER	5	-7	10	-15	-1	-16	0.02	-0.20	0.01	0.96	120	41.97	143	83	76	0	7	2	0
	ST. CLOUD	6	-8	15	-15	-1	-13	0.11	-0.06	0.11	0.20	32	20.66	76	82	67	0	7	1	0
MS	JACKSON	42	19	51	15	30	-17	0.18	-1.17	0.14	1.59	36	40.31	75	80	34	0	7	2	0
	MERIDIAN	42	18	51	12	30	-17	0.38	-1.02	0.28	1.63	36	35.95	65	85	43	0	7	2	0
	TUPELO	34	16	41	13	25	-17	0.33	-1.07	0.20	5.26	114	44.88	83	80	56	0	7	3	0
MO	COLUMBIA	24	4	32	-3	14	-16	0.00	-0.53	0.00	0.76	40	39.41	102	75	52	0	7	0	0
	KANSAS CITY	19	2	26	-9	11	-18	0.04	-0.31	0.03	0.41	34	34.55	93	79	58	0	7	2	0
	SAINT LOUIS	23	6	34	2	14	-18	0.05	-0.61	0.04	1.57	67	37.60	102	76	61	0	7	2	0
	SPRINGFIELD	25	3	38	-10	14	-20	0.01	-0.67	0.01	1.23	50	35.01	83	73	56	0	7	1	0
MT	BILLINGS	28	11	44	-8	19	-5	0.12	-0.07	0.05	0.19	34	11.66	78	81	55	0	7	4	0
	BUTTE	28	4	35	-16	16	0	0.02	-0.09	0.02	0.09	26	8.83	74	85	55	0	7	1	0
	GLASGOW	16	-8	36	-21	4	-9	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.13	48	13.73	127	80	74	0	7	0	0
	GREAT FALLS	25	6	40	-4	16	-7	0.53	0.34	0.47	0.65	107	10.25	68	88	60	0	7	3	0
	KALISPELL	28	3	38	-13	15	-7	0.17	-0.24	0.07	0.74	58	9.78	61	90	82	0	7	4	0
	MILES CITY	28	5	54	-9	17	-1	0.08	-0.06	0.00	0.67	149	12.62	91	76	52	0	7	1	0
	MISSOULA	27	9	36	-7	18	-4	0.19	-0.09	0.08	0.80	94	12.16	92	88	77	0	7	4	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	22	0	32	-8	11	-13	0.01	-0.14	0.01	1.17	213	20.56	83	75	63	0	7	1	0
	LINCOLN	19	0	33	-13	9	-15	0.28	0.09	0.23	0.73	107	23.30	83	75	63	0	7	3	0
	NORFOLK	17	-1	33	-10	8	-13	0.04	-0.13	0.03	0.11	19	23.59	94	75	62	0	7	2	0
	NORTH PLATTE	34	5	48	0	20	-3	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.10	28	16.38	85	80	40	0	7	0	0
	OMAHA	17	-1	32	-11	8	-15	0.36	0.14	0.31	1.06	136	27.22	92	75	66	0	7	2	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	41	10	57	3	26	1	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.00	0	14.36	95	82	54	0	7	0	0
	VALENTINE	31	-1	59	-11	15	-6	0.04	-0.04	0.03	0.18	62	19.50	107	63	50	0	7	2	0
NV	ELY	45	12	54	1	29	4	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.12	22	10.14	102	72	44	0	7	0	0
	LAS VEGAS	57	35	62	32	46	1	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.06	22	3.50	87	36	23	0	2	0	0
	RENO	53	24	63	18	39	7	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.14	19	6.46	89	66	45	0	7	0	0
	WINNEMUCCA	46	17	59	10	32	3	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.32	48	9.88	123	77	58	0	7	0	0
NH	CONCORD	35	18	59	7	26	4	1.57	0.88	1.36	2.68	112	38.33	108	91	58	0	6	3	1
NJ	NEWARK	39	22	66	12	30	-4	0.98	0.21	0.82	2.41	93	41.54	96	73	54	0	7	3	1
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	49	24	54	19	37	3	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.09	25	8.11	93	54	21	0	7	0	0
NY	ALBANY	33	18	56	8	26	2	3.01	2.37	2.79	3.65	164	46.17	130	85	64	0	6	3	1
	BINGHAMTON	28	12	56	1	20	-5	0.74	0.08	0.47	2.05	90	44.44	123	86	69	0	7	4	0
	BUFFALO	28	17	47	8	23	-5	1.02	0.21	0.50	3.18	114	41.90	111	90	70	0	7	6	1
	ROCHESTER	32	16	55	8	24	-4	0.16	-0.44	0.08	1.84	89	35.46	113	82	65	0	7	3	0
	SYRACUSE	32	16	63	7	24	-2	0.32	-0.37	0.12	1.78	73	35.77	94	90	64	0	7	6	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	39	14	55	9	26	-13	0.13	-0.66	0.12	2.66	101	35.88	77	83	45	0	7	2	0
	CHARLOTTE	42	19	65	14	31	-10	0.42	-0.38	0.25	1.08	42	34.78	82	83	39	0	7	3	0
	GREENSBORO	40	19	63	14	29	-10	0.34	-0.43	0.22	1.16	46	38.70	93	81	40	0	7	2	0
	HATTERAS	48	35	68	27	41	-7	1.84	0.81	1.73	3.34	100	56.63	103	85	57	0	3	2	1
	RALEIGH	45	22	69	17	34	-7	0.63	-0.11	0.39	1.54	64	39.16	97	77	49	0	7	3	0
	WILMINGTON	51	27	72	23	39	-8	0.15	-0.68	0.08	1.25	47	53.40	100	89	37	0	6	2	0
ND	BISMARCK	12	-9	29	-14	1	-11	0.19	0.08	0.17	0.47	131	23.27	152	76	68	0	7	2	0
	DICKINSON	16	-9	35	-18	4	-11	0.01	-0.07	0.01	0.18	67	15.97	100	84	51	0	7	1	0
	FARGO	2	-14	12	-21	-6	-15	0.07	-0.07	0.04	0.20	44	33.99	177	86	67	0	7	2	0
	GRAND FORKS	2	-14	13	-18	-6	-14	0.13	-0.01	0.01	0.43	93	24.65	136	89	64	0	7	2	0
	JAMESTOWN	6	-12	26	-17	-3	-14	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.34	94	23.13	138	86	75	0	7	0	0
	WILLISTON	11	-11	33	-21	0	-11	0.86	-0.08	0.06	0.39	91	19.10	141	78	71	0	7	1	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	23	5	48	-3	14	-15	0.16	-0.49	0.06	3.12	139	45.66	128	88	76	0	7	4	0
	CINCINNATI	25	5	34	-1	15	-17	0.25	-0.44	0.02	3.22	135	45.85	113	82	64	0	7	3	0
	CLEVELAND	24	7	50	1	16	-13	0.23	-0.45	0.13	2.60	111	40.43	113	90	75	0	7	4	0
	COLUMBUS	26	8	50	1	17	-13	0.20	-0.42	0.09	3.51	161	42.77	114	85	70	0	7	4	0
	DAYTON	23	3	34	-1	13	-17	0.04	-0.61	0.02	2.62	117	34.53	96	87	67	0	7	3	0
	MANSFIELD	23	4	48	-4	13	-15	1.02	0.36	1.01	3.05	129	40.30	103	89	66	0	7	2	1

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*** Not Available

Weather Data for the Week Ending December 23, 2000

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
	TOLEDO	31	2	35	-4	11	-15	0.26	-0.39	0.17	2.62	116	38.77	120	85	74	0	7	3	0
	YOUNGSTOWN	24	9	48	2	17	-11	0.32	-0.33	0.13	3.15	141	36.74	100	83	71	0	7	5	0
OK	OKLAHOMA CITY	41	22	49	17	31	-7	0.00	-0.30	0.00	1.62	151	38.36	116	79	49	0	7	0	0
	TULSA	33	15	42	8	24	-13	0.00	-0.45	0.00	1.55	93	40.98	102	68	52	0	7	0	0
OR	ASTORIA	50	41	53	32	45	3	2.66	0.29	0.77	5.07	65	50.88	80	98	89	0	1	7	3
	BURNS	35	14	39	-3	25	1	0.14	-0.11	0.13	0.44	51	10.65	110	90	76	0	7	2	0
	EUGENE	47	36	51	30	42	1	1.73	-0.20	1.03	4.19	65	37.94	80	97	91	0	2	6	1
	MEDFORD	48	32	53	22	40	3	0.05	-0.69	0.03	0.98	39	18.81	104	97	58	0	2	2	0
	PENDLETON	35	27	44	23	31	-2	0.25	-0.11	0.15	0.56	46	15.25	140	92	88	0	7	5	0
	PORTLAND	44	36	49	32	40	0	2.09	0.70	1.00	3.61	79	30.35	87	94	80	0	1	6	1
	SALEM	48	36	51	27	42	3	1.48	-0.05	0.63	3.84	75	30.30	81	95	88	0	3	6	1
PA	ALLENTOWN	34	14	63	7	24	-6	2.33	1.56	2.14	3.95	151	43.61	102	81	56	0	7	3	1
	ERIE	28	12	45	4	19	-11	0.13	-0.65	0.13	2.75	100	46.56	114	84	71	0	7	1	0
	MIDDLETOWN	32	15	56	9	24	-8	1.35	0.63	1.17	3.41	140	41.65	105	94	60	0	7	4	1
	PHILADELPHIA	38	22	65	12	30	-4	0.78	0.01	0.73	1.99	79	43.42	107	80	63	0	7	3	1
	PITTSBURGH	27	10	45	3	19	-11	0.34	-0.32	0.26	3.49	161	40.95	113	85	63	0	7	2	0
	WILKES-BARRE	31	12	61	2	21	-7	1.82	1.28	1.46	2.70	141	36.02	101	87	55	0	7	4	1
	WILLIAMSPORT	30	12	54	6	21	-8	0.66	0.01	0.47	2.65	115	41.93	105	84	59	0	7	2	0
RI	PROVIDENCE	38	24	60	15	31	0	2.52	1.54	2.03	4.02	122	45.07	101	83	61	0	6	4	1
SC	BEAUFORT	50	27	67	22	39	-12	0.09	-0.67	0.07	0.89	39	33.99	67	83	37	0	7	2	0
	CHARLESTON	51	26	71	21	39	-11	0.16	-0.58	0.12	1.78	77	45.06	89	76	34	0	7	2	0
	COLUMBIA	46	23	67	17	34	-12	0.31	-0.53	0.29	1.02	39	36.25	74	81	41	0	7	2	0
	GREENVILLE	41	20	52	18	30	-12	0.14	-0.81	0.12	2.12	69	35.21	70	82	37	0	7	2	0
SD	ABERDEEN	8	-12	25	-22	-2	-15	0.13	0.05	0.13	0.33	110	27.17	147	80	74	0	7	1	0
	HURON	11	-8	26	-16	1	-15	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.46	128	20.19	101	82	68	0	7	0	0
	RAPID CITY	27	1	38	-10	14	-9	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.08	22	16.59	100	81	62	0	7	0	0
	SIOUX FALLS	11	-7	26	-15	2	-14	0.01	-0.13	0.01	0.36	67	25.91	109	79	71	0	7	1	0
TN	BRISTOL	33	11	51	4	22	-15	0.25	-0.52	0.11	1.63	65	35.59	89	91	52	0	7	4	0
	CHATTANOOGA	38	18	50	15	28	-12	0.10	-1.08	0.04	2.16	56	48.23	92	80	52	0	7	3	0
	KNOXVILLE	35	15	52	12	25	-14	0.19	-0.86	0.13	2.49	74	47.08	102	89	51	0	7	4	0
	MEMPHIS	32	16	37	12	24	-18	0.04	-1.24	0.02	2.30	53	36.71	72	80	47	0	7	2	0
	NASHVILLE	33	13	41	11	23	-16	0.05	-0.99	0.04	3.48	100	42.48	92	84	52	0	7	2	0
TX	ABILENE	55	29	65	23	42	-2	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.18	23	21.42	89	67	37	0	4	0	0
	AMARILLO	55	22	68	14	38	2	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.08	26	17.01	88	57	22	0	7	0	0
	AUSTIN	56	30	67	22	43	-7	0.01	-0.40	0.01	1.08	76	29.50	94	72	38	0	5	1	0
	BEAUMONT	55	34	61	29	44	-9	0.25	-0.82	0.20	1.62	46	45.80	82	81	36	0	4	2	0
	BROWNSVILLE	68	46	79	38	57	-4	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.73	80	15.83	60	80	51	0	0	0	0
	CORPUS CHRISTI	66	39	75	28	53	-4	0.10	-0.18	0.09	0.36	40	23.37	78	80	49	0	2	2	0
	DEL RIO	59	35	64	27	47	-4	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.23	50	17.75	98	74	37	0	2	0	0
	EL PASO	59	28	65	21	43	0	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.43	98	7.42	85	47	16	0	6	0	0
	FORT WORTH	50	29	66	22	40	-6	0.00	-0.41	0.00	0.76	55	30.82	93	70	34	0	5	0	0
	GALVESTON	58	42	66	36	50	-5	0.03	-0.77	0.02	0.98	37	38.73	94	79	38	0	0	2	0
	HOUSTON	57	33	66	27	45	-7	0.08	-0.69	0.08	1.12	44	46.06	102	80	45	0	4	1	0
	LUBBOCK	54	22	63	15	38	-2	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.40	98	20.75	112	64	32	0	7	0	0
	MIDLAND	57	27	71	23	42	-2	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.58	132	9.90	67	64	30	0	7	0	0
	SAN ANGELO	58	31	68	23	44	-1	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.27	47	14.86	73	68	37	0	5	0	0
	SAN ANTONIO	57	34	66	29	45	-6	0.13	-0.18	0.13	1.04	92	35.33	115	78	31	0	3	1	0
	VICTORIA	62	35	71	30	48	-7	0.01	-0.44	0.01	0.29	19	34.26	93	88	43	0	3	1	0
	WACO	54	30	67	20	42	-5	0.00	-0.40	0.00	0.44	31	35.68	113	73	35	0	5	0	0
	WICHITA FALLS	50	28	61	22	39	-3	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.45	46	24.98	87	71	42	0	6	0	0
UT	SALT LAKE CITY	40	25	47	20	32	4	0.00	-0.31	0.00	0.96	90	15.81	100	80	51	0	7	0	0
VT	BURLINGTON	31	15	56	1	23	2	1.60	1.08	1.26	2.58	139	37.85	112	89	58	0	7	4	1
VA	LYNCHBURG	34	14	49	5	24	-13	0.31	-0.41	0.17	1.59	65	34.85	87	84	46	0	7	2	0
	NORFOLK	45	27	71	19	36	-6	0.22	-0.53	0.20	0.98	42	49.42	113	80	44	0	6	2	0
	RICHMOND	42	22	67	13	32	-7	1.43	0.69	1.34	2.37	98	43.23	102	85	43	0	7	3	1
	ROANOKE	35	16	46	10	26	-11	0.40	-0.26	0.26	1.73	78	37.66	93	76	49	0	7	2	0
	WASH/DULLES	34	16	54	6	25	-9	0.80	0.08	0.67	2.08	86	36.14	92	81	53	0	7	2	1
WA	OLYMPIA	44	33	49	25	39	1	1.16	-0.66	0.41	3.37	56	41.01	85	96	87	0	3	7	0
	QUILLAYUTE	46	36	50	30	41	1	2.21	-1.27	0.74	5.67	49	86.28	85	96	86	0	3	7	2
	SEATTLE-TACOMA	45	36	48	32	41	1	0.65	-0.67	0.27	2.02	46	28.12	79	87	73	0	2	4	0
	SPOKANE	28	17	36	8	22	-5	0.29	-0.26	0.15	0.98	54	14.49	91	96	83	0	7	3	0
	YAKIMA	35	23	46	16	29	0	0.37	0.04	0.16	0.67	63	6.55	86	87	78	0	7	4	0
WV	BECKLEY	32	9	53	-2	20	-13	0.50	-0.24	0.38	2.04	84	39.92	99	87	63	0	7	4	0
	CHARLESTON	32	11	52	1	22	-14	0.35	-0.40	0.24	2.40	94	38.95	93	86	63	0	7	4	0
	ELKINS	32	8	59	0	20	-11	0.42	-0.36	0.30	0.91	35	43.36	99	91	59	0	7	3	0
	HUNTINGTON	32	11	53	3	21	-14	0.09	-0.66	0.08	3.32	132	39.78	98	85	59	0	7	2	0
WI	EAU CLAIRE	9	-8	16	-14	1	-14	0.21	-0.04	0.18	0.52	63	39.52	126	87	67	0	7	3	0
	GREEN BAY	17	-3	23	-10	7	-11	0.58	0.26	0.28	1.12	96	31.23	110	87	66	0	7	5	0
	LA CROSSE	10	-7	15	-16	1	-17	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.47	48	30.97	102	87	64	0	7	0	0
	MADISON	14	-4	20	-8	5	-15	0.60	0.20	0.26	1.17	83	40.06	132	81	71	0	7	5	0
	MILWAUKEE	17	-1	21	-8	8	-15	0.43	-0.08	0.18	1.01	57	43.49	134	84	68	0	7	6	0
WY	CASPER	31	8	36	-10	20	-3	0.13	-0.01	0.08	0.28	56	10.63	86	76	61	0	7	3	0
	CHEYENNE	37	14	48	0	26	-1	0.19	0.11	0.16	0.41	132	13.24	93	67	44	0	7	2	0
	LANDER	31	6	46	-6	19	-1	0.11	-0.01	0.11	0.23	52	8.61	67	78	65	0	7	1	0
	SHERIDAN	28	1	49	-12	14	-7	0.02	-0.15	0.01	0.41	76	13.68	96	85	68	0	7	2	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

*** Not Available

NOTE: These data are preliminary and subject to change. In the past, precipitation totals from a number of stations were incomplete.

National Agricultural Summary

December 18 - 24, 2000

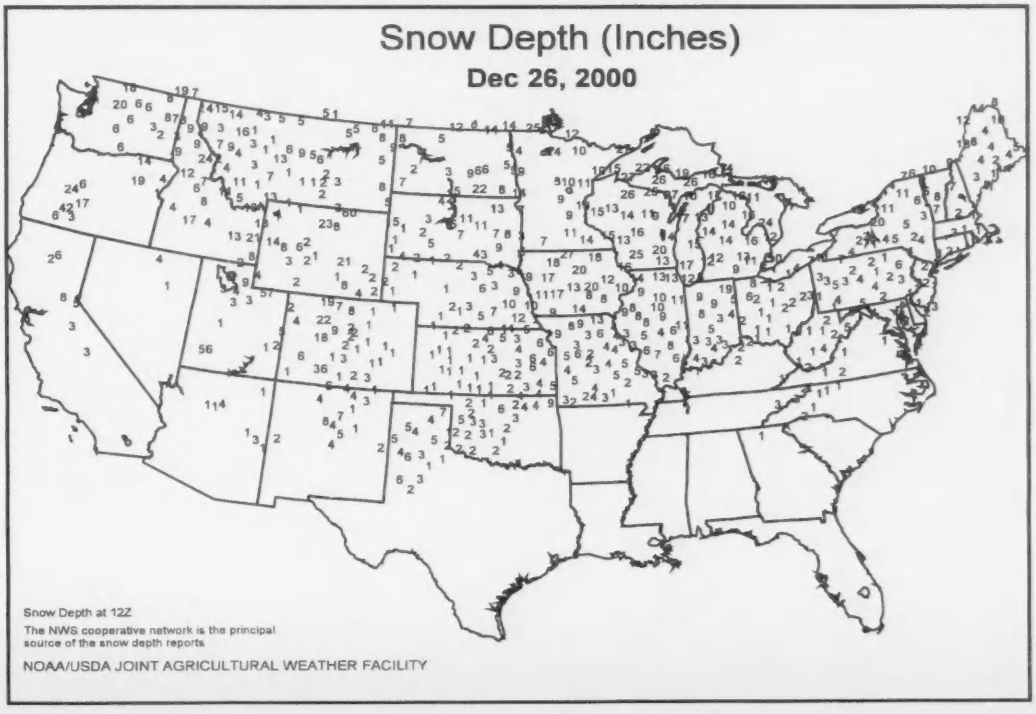
Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

HIGHLIGHTS

Small grain seeding and fertilizing continued, as dry weather aided progress in California. Warm weather stimulated growth of early-planted wheat fields, but emergence of recently planted fields was slow. Dryland wheat seeding was delayed due to soil moisture shortages. Land preparation and planting of winter forage crops continued. Growers applied herbicides on emerged winter forage crops, and some fields were irrigated. California cotton producers were nearly finished harvesting their crop. Shredding and discing of harvested cotton fields were also nearly complete. New alfalfa fields were being prepared, seeded, and irrigated. Pruning and dormant spraying continued in orchards and vineyards. Some orchards were irrigated due to moisture shortages. Grapefruit harvest was active in the San Joaquin Valley. Navel orange, tangerine, and satsuma harvests continued. Lemon picking was active in southern California. In Tulare County, avocados were harvested. Vegetable growers prepared fields for planting tomatoes for processing and sweet corn. Recently planted vegetable fields were irrigated. Warm weather aided development of winter vegetables.

Dry weather aided the sugarcane harvest in Florida, but topsoil moisture throughout the Peninsula was very short. In the Florida Panhandle, moisture supplies were adequate to sustain development of small grains and cool season forages. Freezing temperatures in the northern citrus-producing counties produced slush ice in fruit that remained to be picked. Some new leaves may be lost due to the freezing temperatures and frost in areas hit by the lowest temperatures. Growers irrigated orchards where water supplies were available to maintain good tree condition. Packing houses worked long hours to meet the Christmas demand. Vegetable producers ran irrigation equipment to prevent damage to crops due to cold weather. Strong winds damaged strawberry plants, but recovery was expected.

Snow cover protected winter wheat in the northern Great Plains and Corn Belt from sub-zero temperatures. In Texas, cold weather limited growth of winter forage crops.


Snow Depth (Inches)
Dec 26, 2000
Snow Depth at 12Z
The NWS cooperative network is the principal source of the snow depth reports
NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

International Weather and Crop Summary

December 17 - 23, 2000

International Weather and Crop Highlights and Summaries provided by USDA/WAOB

HIGHLIGHTS

EUROPE: Seasonably cold weather in northeastern Europe caused winter grains to enter dormancy.

FSU-WESTERN: Unseasonably mild weather provided favorable overwintering conditions for dormant winter grains, although colder air settled into the region during the latter half of the week.

MIDDLE EAST: Beneficial rain continued across the region.

AUSTRALIA: Scattered showers in the southeast slowed late winter crop harvests.

SOUTH AFRICA: Showers maintained favorable conditions for vegetative summer crops, although localized flooding returned to coastal sugarcane regions.

EASTERN ASIA: Across North China Plain, winter wheat remained dormant, despite warmer weather.

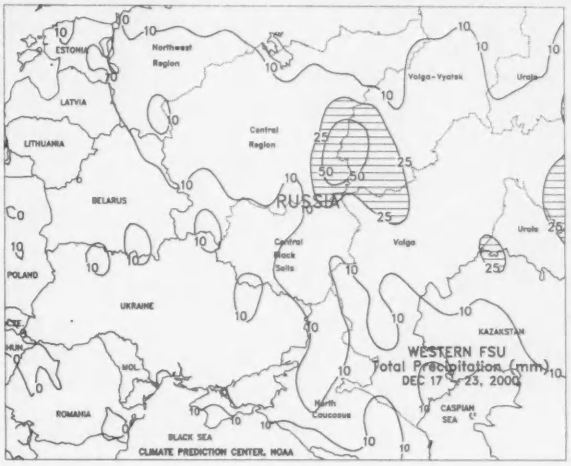
SOUTHEAST ASIA: Drier weather promoted rice fieldwork in southern Vietnam.

SOUTH AMERICA: In central Argentina, drier weather favored winter wheat maturation and harvesting, but stressed summer crops in the west. In southern Brazil, showers maintained favorable soil moisture across most crop-producing areas.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Cool, wet weather benefited developing winter grains in Morocco.

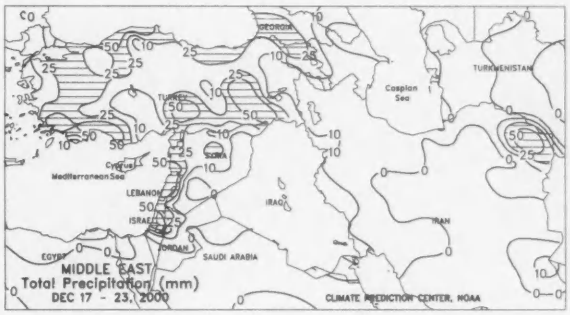
EUROPE

In the Iberian peninsula, moderate to heavy rain (25-100 mm) in Portugal and western Spain benefited vegetative winter wheat and barley, but likely caused localized flooding. The rainfall was especially beneficial in extreme southern Spain and Portugal, increasing moisture reserves depleted by long-term dryness. Elsewhere throughout Europe, mostly light precipitation (less than 10 mm) fell in major winter grain- and oilseed-producing areas, allowing fieldwork to progress. Unseasonably warm weather (temperatures 2-5 degrees C above normal) in southern England, France, and northern Spain continued to accelerate winter grain development, while near-normal temperatures prevailed throughout the remainder of western Europe. Seasonably cold weather overspread eastern Europe, causing cold hardening and inducing winter grains into dormancy across much of northeastern Europe.



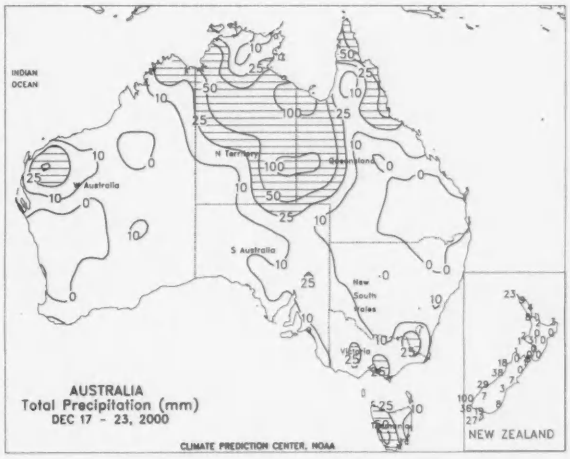
FSU-WESTERN

Near- to above-normal temperatures provided favorable overwintering conditions for dormant winter grains, although colder air settled into the region during the latter half of the week. Weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal in Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltics, and 3 to 4 degrees C above normal in most of southern Russia. Extreme maximum temperatures early in the week ranged from near to below freezing in the western Northwest Region, western and southern Central Region, and southern Volga-Vyatsk of Russia, to between 5 and 9 degrees C in southern Ukraine and southern Russia (North Caucasus and southern Volga Valley), eroding some protective snow cover in southern areas. Occasional snow (10-30 mm or greater of liquid equivalent) the remainder of the week, however, increased this snow pack in the eastern Central Region, Central Black Soils Region, upper Volga Valley, and southern Volga Vyatsk. The snow pack protected winter grains from extreme minimum temperatures generally between -16 and -10 degrees C during the latter half of the week.



MIDDLE EAST

Beneficial showers continued throughout the region for the second week, increasing moisture reserves for winter wheat. The heaviest rain (25-50 mm or more) was recorded along the eastern Mediterranean Coast (south-central Turkey southward through Israel), in the mountains of southeastern Turkey, and along the southern Black Sea Coast. The rainfall improved long-term moisture reserves and aided winter wheat development, which was spurred by above-normal temperatures (positive anomalies of 2-3 degrees C). Late-week precipitation (liquid equivalent of 10-25 mm or more) was also recorded across the Anatolian Plateau. Light showers lingered from eastern Syria through Iran, following last week's locally heavy rain.

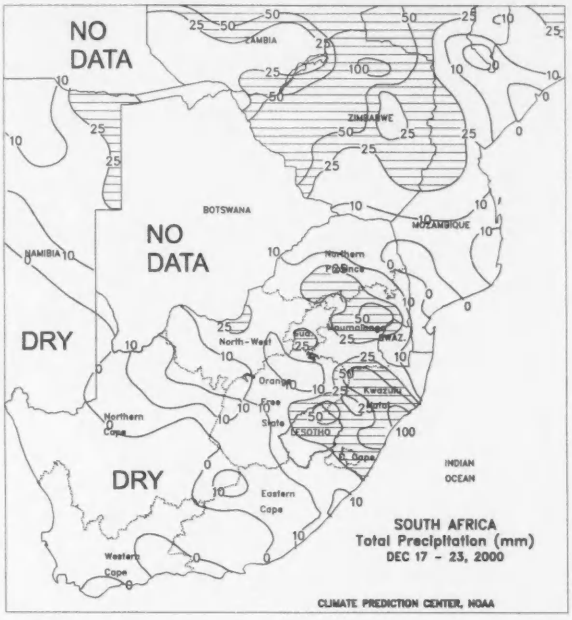


AUSTRALIA

A frontal passage brought light showers (25 mm or less) to the southeastern winter crop belt, benefiting pastures but slowing late harvesting. Temperatures prior to the rainfall ranged from the middle 30's to lower 40's degrees C, aiding crop dry down and final fieldwork efforts. Elsewhere in the east, favorably dry, warm weather covered interior crop areas of New South Wales and Queensland, favoring summer crop development and flood recovery. Significant rainfall (25-50 mm or more) in the coastal sugarcane areas was limited to the northern growing districts. In Western Australia, seasonably dry, warm weather aided late winter crop harvests. Rainfall was generally light (10 mm or less) in New Zealand's main agricultural districts.

SOUTH AFRICA

Scattered showers (5-25 mm or more) and seasonable warmth sustained overall favorable prospects for corn, sunflowers, and other summer crops. High temperatures ranged from the middle and upper 20's degrees C in eastern sections of the corn belt to the lower and middle 30's degrees C in traditionally warmer parts of the west. However, locally heavy rain (50-100 mm or more) redeveloped in coastal sugarcane areas of KwaZulu-Natal, likely causing some additional flooding. A continuation of warm, dry weather in the Western Cape province maintained high crop irrigation demands.



SOUTHEAST ASIA

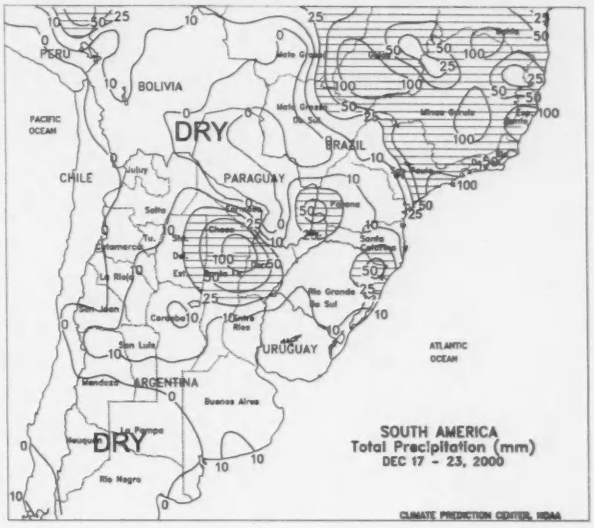
In southern Vietnam, drier weather aided winter-spring rice transplanting. Similarly, seasonably dry weather helped rice fieldwork throughout Thailand. Easterly winds continued to bring heavy rainfall (25-150 mm) to the eastern Philippines. Elsewhere in the Philippines, scattered showers (10-25 mm) favored second-season crops. Scattered showers (10-75 mm, locally exceeding 100 mm) covered Java, Indonesia and the Malay Peninsula, likely resulting in some localized flooding of rice and plantation crops.

EASTERN ASIA

Despite warmer weather across the North China Plain, winter wheat remained dormant. Temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal across eastern China. Light precipitation (5-20 mm) fell from the southern North China Plain to the southern coast, increasing moisture supplies for winter crops.

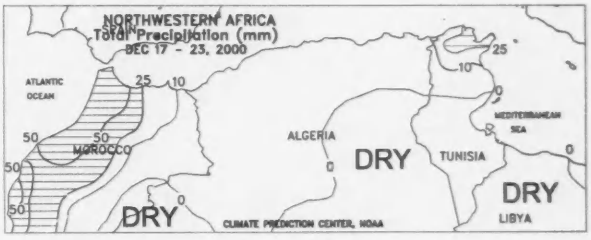
SOUTH AMERICA

In central Argentina, mostly dry weather favored winter wheat maturation and harvesting. In La Pampa and western Buenos Aires, dry weather stressed germinating to vegetative summer crops. However, early-week warm weather moderated as the week progressed, easing stress on summer crops, and late-week showers (5-25 mm) brought some relief to southern Cordoba and Santa Fe. Significant showers covered northern Cordoba and northern Sante Fe (10-40 mm) and south-central Buenos Aires (5-20 mm). Temperatures averaged near normal to slightly below normal across Argentina. According to the Argentine Agricultural Secretariat as of December 15, nationwide corn was 85 percent planted, the same as last year at this time; soybeans were 75 percent planted, compared with 77 percent last year; sunflowers were 92 percent planted, compared with 99 percent last year; and sorghum was 76 percent planted, compared with 89 percent last year. Cotton and rice were 85 and 93 percent planted, respectively. Wheat was 31 percent harvested, with harvesting beginning in Buenos Aires. Across southern Brazil, showers maintained soil moisture across the southern and northwestern soybean-producing areas, while drier weather prevailed in central areas. Widespread showers (25-100 mm or more) covered Sao Paulo, southern Goias, Minas Gerais, and eastern Mato Grosso, while late-week showers (10-25 mm) were reported across Rio Grande do Sul and southern Parana. Drier weather prevailed across Mato Grosso do Sul and most of southern Mato Grosso, but soil moisture remained adequate for crop development. Temperatures averaged near to slightly above normal across southern Brazil. Along the northeast coast of Brazil, lighter showers (10-60 mm) eased wetness and favored sugarcane fieldwork.



NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Rainfall (10-25 mm, locally exceeding 50 mm) increased soil moisture in Morocco, improving prospects for late winter grain planting. However, long-term moisture deficits still exist. Little rain (less than 10 mm) fell in Algeria and Tunisia, continuing a below-normal rainfall pattern that has developed over the region in recent weeks.



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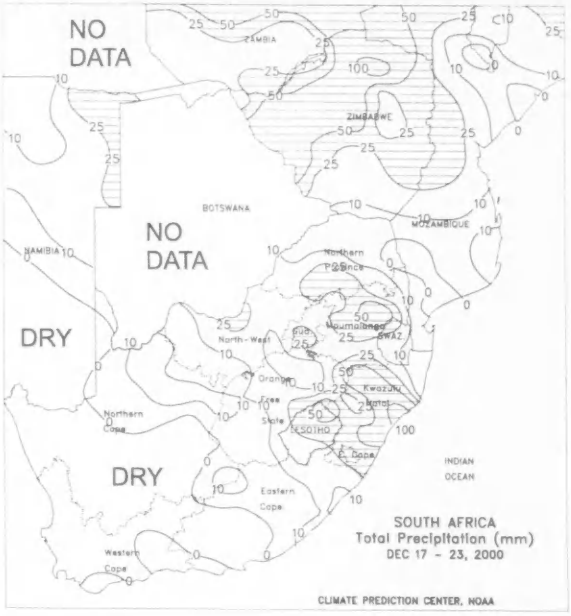

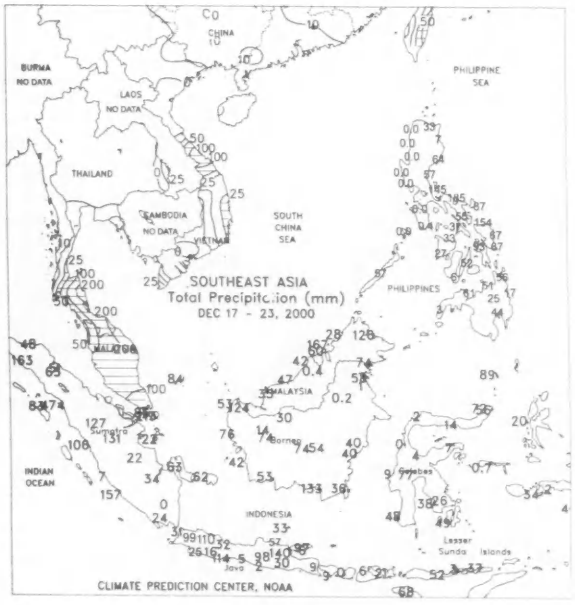

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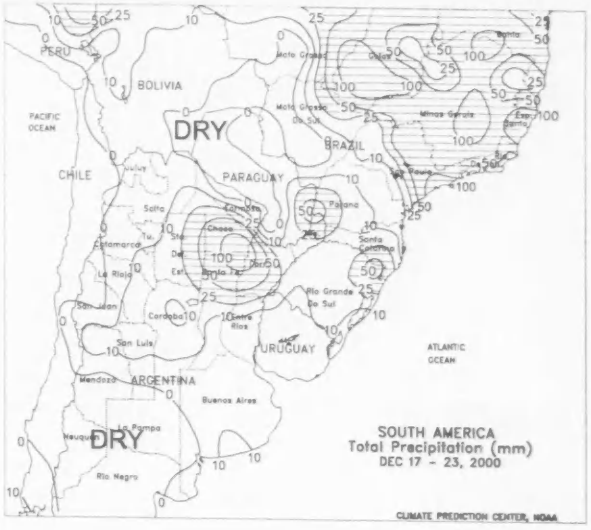

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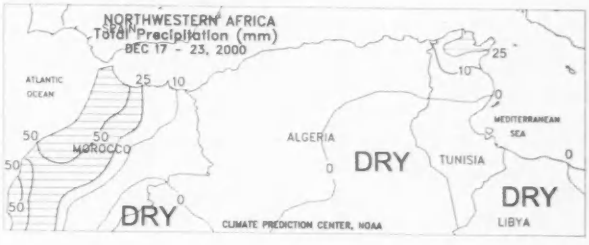

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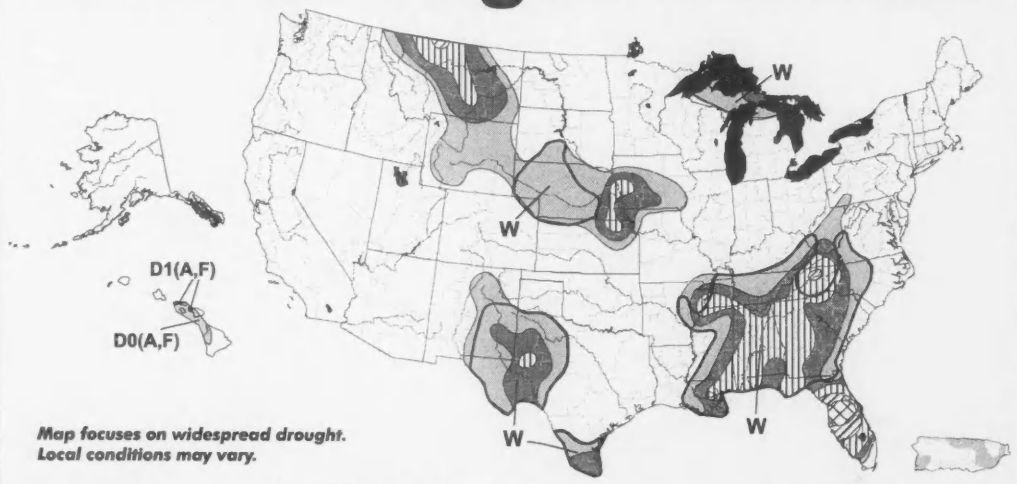
December 19, 2000 **Valid 7 a.m. EST**

U.S. Drought Monitor



Map focuses on widespread drought.
Local conditions may vary.

D0 Abnormally Dry
D1 Drought-First Stage
D2 Drought–Severe
D3 Drought–Extreme
D4 Drought–Exceptional
Delineates Overlapping Areas

Drought type: used only when impacts differ

A = Agriculture
W = Water
F = Wildfire danger

See accompanying text summary for forecast statements
http://enso.unl.edu/monitor/monitor.html

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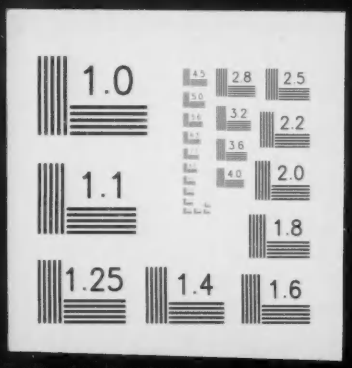
1.0
1.1
1.25
1.4
1.6
1.8
2.0
2.2
2.5
2.8
3.2
3.6
4.0
4.5
5.0